

Camp 20 Miles from Philadelphia May 1777
My Dear Sir

I received yours of the 31st inst. and
in return I send you — I should
be very happy if it should turn out that
Nancy has not been taken — An express
— an express — gave here a circumstantial account
of the matter that we had not the least
doubt but that it was true. Your letter
which is better than he came from Boston
makes it uncertain. — I hope the two
ships later and here will not share his
supposed fate — in two or three letters
ago you inform me that you supposed
you should be called upon for 200 or 300
more towards the ship on Newbury and
advised the sale of the Prætor — I write
you in answer that I wish you would
sell it — but reflecting since that it
would be extremely disagreeable to a certain
person whom I love as I do myself
and that to supply its place would be
very difficult — I wish if it is not already
disposed of that it may not and I am

should be made in the morning you spoke of. then
ordered give me notice of it & I will
begin an order transfer it to you — I am
giving as the ship he disappeared from these Cases
on the 31 July I was on the 8th instant been seen
off Liverpool the eastern Coast of Maryland
standing south — suppose in the afternoon
whether this last express betwixt I know
not but it has occupied our halting here when
we receive more certain information of his ship
— I am sure of your opinion that the North
River is the greatest object on the Continent &
from many other things Philadelphia the new
— The North River to be said by a Captain
— and Philadelphia while we lay here
is also, that is as far as in our power
— I should suppose that Mr. England might be
an object if Mr. Burgoyne would attempt
to penetrate down thro' the Jerseys
but not without — I laugh at the
your given of the ridiculous fear of a common
patriot —

RW 471(1)

The General has been
reported of advice being given by General
Linn you not to be discouraged, something

mission to an which will suit them — You say
that you hear that I intend to leave the service
at the end of the Campaign — I have formed
no such resolution — if the Congress appoint
any other person over my head I shall
most assuredly leave the service but not
till the end of the Campaign — They
the Congress are exceedingly embarrassed with
Mr DuLacrie, but from information they
will not appoint him and look on
Mr Dean as a madman for making
the ridiculous treaty with them &
they said — The Country has a right
the exactions of every honest man and
retreat that can be of any service &
I shall continue in the service I think I can
be of any use — when Congress discharge
me I shall then see if we are of service
not undoubtedly retire — but till
then my duty I shall continue
I am sincerely agitated the same — take
it upon the worst view it cannot
be more than one Campaign more
God bless you my dear friend —
Peter Willis Abner J. Hall

Colonel Henry Jackson
Boston

Letter from my
friend W. H. C.
Aug 12. 1797

RW 47/1(2)

MS. Ch. C. 3. 7